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FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE DETECTION SURVEY
OF THE FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION, MONTANA

by

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On September 2, the annual insect and disease survey was made on the Flathead Indian Reservation. The following is a brief resume of current conditions.

WESTERN SPRUCE BUDWORM, Choristoneura occidentalis Freeman--Western spruce budworm infestations have enlarged west of Big Arm from a small area north of Irving Lookout showing light defoliation in 1970. It has engulfed most of the Douglas-fir and true fir forests from Big Arm to the upper end of Rattlesnake Gulch. Infestations have also increased in drainages west of Hot Springs, and new defoliation was detected between Spring Creek and Clear Creek southeast of Rainbow Lake. Infestations remain about the same as 1970 in the Mission Mountains and west of Arlee.

BARK BEETLES, pine engraver, Ips pini (Say) and mountain pine beetle infestation levels remain about the same as 1970 for the most part.

Some faded ponderosa pines were observed adjacent to old chronic infestation centers southeast of Big Arm and near Hot Springs. Infestations between upper Dry Fork Reservoir and Hubbard Reservoir appear to be static.

Very little Douglas-fir beetle activity was observed throughout the reservation.